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- Relevancy (descending)
- Title (ascending)
- Open Date (descending)
- Close Date (ascending)
- Release Date (descending)

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Displaying 31 - 40 of 68 results

1. 14.1-FH2: Personalized Driving Data for Insurance Discounts & Public Benefits

Release Date: 02-04-2014Open Date: 02-04-2014Due Date: 04-04-2014Close Date: 04-04-2014

Traditional car insurance rates vary little, if at all, based on mileage and observed driving safety, even though they clearly and directly relate to crashes and claims, and charging based on actual risk exposure would improve safety and the environment, reduce energy use, and lessen crash-caused congestion. Brookings Institution research shows that pay-as-you-drive insurance (PAYDI) would lead to ...

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2. 14.1-FH3: Suppressing Utility Problems- Protection via Robotic Engineering to the Sub-Surface

Release Date: 02-04-2014Open Date: 02-04-2014Due Date: 04-04-2014Close Date: 04-04-2014

Poles supporting overhead utilities in the right-of-way represent a significant safety hazard for drivers and occupants of vehicles. While other hazards exist on the roadside, vehicles that crash into these utility poles typically suffer serious damage and increase the risk of serious injury or death for the occupants. Over 1,000 fatalities each year are attributed to crashes involving ...

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3. 14.1-FH4: STEM Education- Increasing awareness about Intelligent Transportation Systems and Connected Vehicle Technologies for High School Students

Release Date: 02-04-2014Open Date: 02-04-2014Due Date: 04-04-2014Close Date: 04-04-2014

This topic exposes students to real world transportation problems to demonstrate how transportation planners, technicians and engineers contribute to solving our nation’s environmental and livability challenges. A recent report noted that nearly 60 percent of the nation's students who begin high school interested in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) chang ...

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4. 14.1-FR2: Wheel Load Cycle Tag for Rail

Release Date: 02-04-2014Open Date: 02-04-2014Due Date: 04-04-2014Close Date: 04-04-2014

In the railroad industry, the “age” of rail is measured by the number and severity of wheel loads. Typically the age of the rail is quantified as millions of gross tons (MGT). As rails age, they are more susceptible to developing rolling contact fatigue. Rolling contact fatigue can lead to rail internal defects which, in turn, can lead to rail failure and a trai ...

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5. 14.1-FH6: Corrosion Resistant Prestressing Strand for Prestressed Concrete Bridges

Release Date: 02-04-2014Open Date: 02-04-2014Due Date: 04-04-2014Close Date: 04-04-2014

The number of prestressed concrete bridge structures utilizing high strength 7-wire strand (black strand) has increased steadily since the 1970s. The prestressing strand can be used in both the pre-tensioned and post-tensioned (PT) structures. Two years ago, the University of Texas completed a study where they evaluated various types of prestressing to determine their corrosion-resistance, includi ...

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6. 13.2-FH1: Development of Innovative Welding for High Performance Bridge Steel

Release Date: 07-25-2013Open Date: 07-25-2013Due Date: 09-23-2013Close Date: 09-23-2013

Steel bridge fabrication has changed little since the 1950s when welding steel began to dominate over riveting. The recent 20 years has seen two innovations in steel bridge fabrication. One has been the advent of high performance steels (HPS) in the mid-1990s that provided higher yield strengths, higher fracture toughness, and most importantly, an increased weldability over conventiona ...

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7. 13.2-FM1: Affiliation Strength/Risk Model Development for Motor Carrier Succession

Release Date: 07-25-2013Open Date: 07-25-2013Due Date: 09-23-2013Close Date: 09-23-2013

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) is responsible for regulating the safety of interstate truck and bus travel in the United States. The primary mission of FMCSA is to reduce crashes, injuries and fatalities involving large trucks and buses.FMCSA's strategic framework is built upon three core principles: Raise the bar to enter the industry; Require operators to ...

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8. 13.2-FH2: Game-based technology and Database to Train Pre-Drivers, Young Drivers, and Older Drivers to Detect Traffic Hazards and Respond Appropriately

Release Date: 07-25-2013Open Date: 07-25-2013Due Date: 09-23-2013Close Date: 09-23-2013

Motor vehicle crashes killed an average of 40,398 people in the U.S. each year from 2000 through 2010, despite declines to 37,423 in 2008, 33,808 in 2009, and 32,885 in 2010 during harsh economic conditions from which the country is slowly recovering (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2012). As a cause of death in the U.S. in 2009, traffic crashes ranked first among both 5-14 an ...

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9. 13.2-PH1: Pipeline Integrity Assessment Using In-Line Inspection

Release Date: 07-25-2013Open Date: 07-25-2013Due Date: 09-23-2013Close Date: 09-23-2013

There is a current need better pipeline inspection technology to enable improved inspection of both oil and gas pipelines for internal corrosion, external corrosion, mechanical damage, and longitudinal and transverse cracks. A new and evolving interest across the industry is for an inspection technology that can measure longitudinal strain. This Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) topi ...

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10. 13.2-PH2: Modeling cathodic protection penetration on new construction pipelines incorporating all types of "foam" sack breakers and supports

Release Date: 07-25-2013Open Date: 07-25-2013Due Date: 09-23-2013Close Date: 09-23-2013

When a pipeline is constructed a ditch is dug to applicable depths based on federal

regulation and is prepared for the pipeline that will be laid within the construction ditch. When the pipeline is placed in the ditch it requires support and padding to protect the coating and align it to the topography of the ditch in preparation for back fill. There are many types of material that can be used to ...

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- First
- Previous
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- Next
- Last

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